

Application No. 10/761,449
Amendment dated September 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 15, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently Amended) An air bag assembly 20-comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag 30-comprising at least a first inflatable region or chamber-32,
3 34-having a plurality of first restrictions, seams or joints extending generally vertically
4 upward from ~~located about at least a~~ portion of the periphery of the inflatable region, the
5 ~~restrictions extending inwardly from respective locations proximate the periphery of the~~
6 ~~inflatable region 32 and a second plurality of restrictions, seams or joints extending~~
7 generally vertically downward from an opposing portion of the periphery of the inflatable
8 region, each restriction, seam or joint of the second set is spaced from each other,
9 wherein each of the first restrictions, seams or joints is misaligned horizontally relative
10 to a corresponding restriction, seam or joint of the second restrictions, seams or joints,
11 the restrictions configured to locally restrict the inflation of the inflatable region and
12 configured to permit the inflatable region to achieve a maximum width in a region
13 generally inboard of the restrictions.

2. – 11. (Canceled)

1 12. (Currently Amended) The assembly as defined in Claim 1 ~~44~~-wherein at least some
2 of the restrictions of the second set of restrictions terminate in a stress reducing
3 structure (the lollipop) and wherein each stress reducing structure does not lie on the
4 same line.

13. – 15 (Canceled)

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1 16. (Currently Amended) An air bag assembly 20 comprising:
2 an air bag 30 including at least a first inflatable region 32, 34 of determinable
3 size, the inflatable region having a plurality of restrictions 120, 124, 126 peripherally
4 located about the inflatable region,
5 the restrictions configured to permit the first inflatable region of the air bag
6 to achieve its maximum inflatable size in a central region interior to the plurality of
7 restrictions, the size of the central regions is determinable by the length of the
8 restrictions including a first set of restrictions extending from a top uninflated portion of
9 the air bag toward the central region. [.]

17. (Canceled)

1 18. (Currently Amended) The air bag as defined in Claim 16 ~~45~~ Including a second set
2 of restrictions extending from a bottom uninflated portion of the air bag toward the
3 central region.

1 19. (New) An air bag assembly (20) comprising:
2 an inflatable air bag comprising at least a first inflatable region or chamber, the first
3 inflatable chamber or region including opposing panels of flexible material, the opposing
4 panels selectively joined together at pre-selected regions by a plurality of restrictions,
5 seams or joints hereinafter referred to as joints; the first inflatable chamber having an
6 uninflatable top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge and a generally opposite second
7 side edge;
8 the plurality of joints includes a first set of joints, each joint of the first set of joints
9 having a base located in or extending from the bottom edge, a stem or body extending
10 from the base edge and a distal end, the distal end located within the first inflatable
11 chamber at a predetermined distance above the bottom edge of the first inflatable
12 chamber; the plurality of joints further including a second set of joints, each joint of the
13 second set of joints having a base, a stem or body and a distal end, wherein the stem

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14 extends away from the top edge and the distal end located a predetermined distance
15 below the top edge within the first inflatable chamber;
16 the joints configured to locally restrict the inflation of the inflatable region and
17 configured to permit the inflatable region to achieve a maximum inflatable dimension in
18 a region generally inboard of distal ends of the first and second sets of joints.

1 20. (New) The curtain air bag according to Claim 19 wherein the distal ends of each of
2 the joints of the first set of joints are located about the same distance from the bottom
3 edge of the air bag.

1 21. (New) The curtain air bag according to Claim 19 wherein the distal ends of the
2 joints of the second set of joints are located about the same distance from the top edge
3 of the air bag.

1 22. (New) The curtain air bag according to Claim 19 including a third set of joints
2 formed generally with a U-shape and configured as a base having first and second ends
3 and including stems extending from a respective one of the first and second ends of the
4 base, each of the stems extending to a distal end.

1 23. (New) The curtain air bag according to Claim 22 wherein the base is spaced from
2 the top edge forming an inflatable region between the base and the top edge.

1 24. (New) The curtain air bag according to Claim 22 wherein each stem is orientated
2 along a vertical line.

1 25. (New) A curtain air bag having two major inflatable chambers, the air bag
2 configured to inflate from a folded configuration at or about a roof rail of a vehicle to an
3 inflated condition covering an interior side portion of the vehicle's passenger
4 compartment, the passenger compartment including a windowed area, the air bag
5 comprising:

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6 a first inflatable chamber having a forward side region which faces a forward
7 portion of the vehicle when the chamber is inflated and an oppositely facing rear side
8 region;

9 a non-inflatable region having a forward side region operatively secured to the rear
10 side region of the first inflatable chamber and located generally at the rear side region of
11 the first inflatable chamber, the non-inflatable region also including an oppositely facing
12 rear side region;

13 the second inflatable chamber having a forward side region operatively secured
14 proximate the rear side of the non-inflatable region, the second inflatable chamber also
15 having a rear side region, and when inflated the second inflatable chamber is configured
16 to be placed in front of the windowed area of the vehicle;

17 a first tether having a first side thereof secured to the forward side region of the
18 first inflatable chamber and having another portion securable to a first portion of the
19 vehicle's passenger compartment;

20 a second tether having a first side region secured proximate the rear side region of
21 the non-inflatable region, the second tether extending behind the rear facing portion of
22 the second inflatable chamber when the second inflatable chamber is inflated, wherein
23 a distal end of the second tether is configured to be secured to the vehicle, the second
24 tether configured to prevent the second inflatable chamber from moving across a plane
25 of the window area.